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COMMITTEES OF THE INSTITUTE

Increase of Crime in California.—Claims that a recent wave of crime in California was caused by paroled prisoners, the state parole officer has proven unfounded. Out of several hundred crimes committed, only one paroled prisoner was involved and he is only on suspicion. Out of a total state prison population of 3115 on January 1, 1914, there are 647 prisoners on parole, 52 of whom were paroled in December, 1913. Of all these only 32 are out of work, 16 of whom are sick. Since the parole law was adopted in California in 1893, there have been 2533 prisoners paroled, of which number only 74 have been returned to prison for committing new crimes. Others have been returned for violating the rules of their parole. Since the passage of the parole law in California, paroled men have earned \$1,407,261.18, of which sum they have saved \$344,751.67. Many have fulfilled the term of their sentence or have been pardoned by the Governor and have gone on earning good wages, which while not included in the above amount, can readily be called money earned by men paroled from prison.

Criticism of the probation system in California cities has been very sharp on account of several serious crimes committed and there are some who are in favor of giving up reformative measures to return to the old retributive system. To such persons we are anxious to show the results of probation in San Francisco during the year ending December 31, 1913.

There are in San Francisco a total of 912 persons on probation, of whom 306 were probationed by the courts during the year 1913. The wage earning capacity of the probationers during the past year is shown by their total earnings of \$149,674.00. Money to reimburse persons who lost through the criminal acts of the probationers was collected in many cases. Nearly \$20,000 were collected from employers of probationers and applied to the support of defendants. These figures cover only the adult probationers.

W. I. DAY, Oakland, Cal.

MISCELLANEOUS.

Committees of the Institute 1913-1914—

Committee A on "The Employment and Compensation of Prisoners."

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